

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

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SUBJECT: MORE CONFUSION IN AFTERMATH OF REFERENDUM

REF: CAIRO 15063

SUMMARY: NO ONE EXONERATED BY COURT WILL BE PENALIZED BY RECENT LEGISLATION. PROSECUTOR ADMITS SOME ON LIST SHOULD NOT BE BANNED. PEOPLES ASSEMBLY TO HEAR ONLY CASES INVOLVING ITS MEMBERS BUT ONE, ABDUL FATAH HASAN, HAS DECIDED HE PREFERS COURT. SADAT'S EARLIER ASSURANCES THAT WAFDISTS WILL NOT BE JAILED, COUPLED WITH MAREI'S SIMILAR STATEMENT RE EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS ABROAD AND SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR'S LIMITATIONS ON PEOPLES ASSEMBLY ACTION HAVE CONFUSED PUBLIC ON WHOM IS TO BE PUNISHED AND FOR WHAT. PRESUMABLY, THIS WILL BE CLARIFIED IN SADAT SPEECH JUNE 20. END SUMMARY.

1. SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR CLARIFIES. SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR OVER WEEKEND "CLARIFIED" LIST OF 136 OFFENDERS PREVIOUSLY TRANSMITTED TO PEOPLES ASSEMBLY (REFTEL). SAID NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THOSE PREVIOUSLY FOUND NOT GUILTY
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BY COURT, OR WHO HAVE BEEN "REHABILITATED." (PROSECUTOR ADMITTED SOME ON LIST SHOULD NOT BE BANNED; BLAMED MULTITUDE OF SOURCES FOR ERRORS.) FURTHER, PROSECUTOR STATED ASSEMBLY WILL ONLY CONSIDER CHARGES AGAINST ITS MEMBERS, NOTING ONLY TWO MP'S LISTED: WAFDIST ABDUL FATAH HASAN AND FARUK METWALLI WHO, ALTHOUGH CONVICTED AS "CENTERS OF POWER", WAS FORMALLY "RE-

HABILITATED." OTHERS, APPARENTLY, WILL HAVE RIGHT TO APPEAL POLITICAL BANNING TO COURT.

2. ABDUL FATAH. ABDUL FATAH HASAN HAS CHOSEN GO THIS ROUTE, IN ANY CASE. HE REFUSED SUBMIT APPEAL TO PEOPLES ASSEMBLY AND HAS APPEALED DIRECTLY TO ADMINISTRATIVE COURT, DENYING HE ENGAGED IN CORRUPT PRACTICES. ABDUL FATAH EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS ACCEPT INVESTIGATION INTO PAST ACTIVITIES BUT SAID, UNTIL THIS COMPLETED, SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR SHOULD KEEP SILENT. (DESPITE ABOVE, PRESS NOTES 20 MP'S EXPECTED TABLE RESOLUTION SEEKING ABDUL FATAH HASAN'S DISMISSAL FROM PARLIAMENT.)

3. MAREI. WEEKEND PRESS CARRIED MAREI INTERVIEW AT PARIS CHARLES DE GAULLE AIRPORT, IN WHICH SPEAKER ASSURED EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS WORKING ABROAD THEY HAVE NO REASON FEAR RETURNING HOME FOR INVESTIGATION: NONE WILL BE ARRESTED. MAREI DENIED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ARE BLOW TO DEMOCRACY AND STATED SADAT'S PRE-JULY 23 "SURPRISE" WILL BE DOMESTIC.

4. SADAT SPEECH. PRESIDENT SCHEDULED DELIVER "IMPORTANT" ADDRESS ON INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS, AT 1100 LOCAL JUNE 20, TO 475 MEMBERS OF ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE (WHICH INCLUDES 360 MP'S).

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5. COMMENT: STATEMENTS EMANATING FROM SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR, PEOPLES ASSEMBLY, AND SENIOR GOE OFFICIALS HAVE ADDED TO CONFUSION ON SOCIAL PEACE FRONT. SADAT, SPEAKING TO THIRD ARMY JUNE 7, DENIED WAFDISTS WILL BE "INSULTED, ARRESTED OR DETAINED." MAREI, APPARENTLY, HAS EXTENDED SIMILAR IMMUNITY TO JOURNALISTS WRITING ABROAD. SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR HAS LIMITED PEOPLES ASSEMBLY ACTION TO TWO CASES, WITH REMAINDER OF INDIVIDUALS ENJOYING ACCESS TO COURTS. (THIS APPEARS CONTRADICT SADAT'S DESIRE KEEP JUDICIARY SEPARATE FROM POLITICS.) UNTIL MODALITIES OF RECENT LEGISLATION CLARIFIED IT DIFFICULT PREDICT HOW FAR SADAT INTENDS GO. TOMORROW'S SPEECH SHOULD PROVIDE SOME ANSWERS. EILTS

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